



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/018,864

02/26/2002

Jukka Wallenius

061602-5425

8477

22907 7590 10/29/2008

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

1100 13th STREET, N.W.

SUITE 1200

WASHINGTON, DC 20005-4051

EXAMINER

PATEL, DHAIRYA A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2451

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/29/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/018,864	Applicant(s) WALLENIOUS, JUKKA	
	Examiner Dhairya A. Patel	Art Unit 2451	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to amendment filed on 7/11/2008. The amendment has been fully entered and considered.
2. Claims 1-26 were previously presented and claim 27-30 are newly added claims. Therefore Claims 1-30 are subject to examination.
3. Applicant's arguments filed 2/8/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4,7-9,13-16,19-21,25-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shaffer et al. U.S. Patent # 6,801,521 (hereinafter Shaffer) in view of Hirni et al. U.S. Patent # 6,731,609 (hereinafter Hirni).

As per claim 1, Shaffer teaches a method comprising:

-monitoring in a routing means of control signaling between the two end-points (column 4 lines 25-32), the control signaling being specifically for separate audio (Fig. 2 element 12, 14), video (Fig. 2 element 28,15) and data streams (Fig. 2 element 22,19) forming a multimedia stream transferred between the two end-points each located in network system, the audio, video and data streams each forming a separate media

Art Unit: 2451

component (column 4 lines 57-67)(column 5 lines 1-23)(column 3 lines 5-67)(column 4 lines 1-3);

NOTE: The reference teaches the gateway include an in-band signal monitoring to monitor the signals which are also routed by the gateway (routing means) between two or more H.323 terminals (transferred between two end points) and also formats the transmitted video, audio data and control streams (forming a multimedia stream) into messages for output to the network interface and each forming separate media component (Fig. 2 elements 12,28,22).

-informing, by the way of the routing means, control means (Fig. 4 element 850) about the separate media components (column 4 lines 44-67)(column 5 lines 1-6);

NOTE: Shaffer teaches the control processor (control means) which extracts audio patterns from an incoming data stream and store them as audio files (media components). In this case the incoming data stream includes audio signals which are stored as audio files.

-recognizing in the routing means the separate media components associated with a call between the two end-points (column 5 lines 1-6, lines 29-45, lines 55-67); and

NOTE: The reference teaches gateway receiving the signals and recognizing the patterns of the call signals and the audio files (separate media components) associated with the call between H.323 terminals (two end points).

-applying, in the routing means, a connection control issued by the control means to the separate media components (column 5 lines 1-6, 25-45,55-67)(column 6 lines 1-15),

NOTE: The reference teaches a connection command (connection control) issued by the gateway which comprises control (control means) to block the signal (separate media components) through the gateway (routing means).

Shaffer fails to teach permitting signaling messages related to the separate media components to be respectively modified and permits the signaling messages to be separately relayed to each of the separate media components related to each of the respective signaling messages.

Hirni also teaches monitoring in a routing means of control signaling between the two end-points (Fig. 2b element 43 and 43'), the control signaling being specifically for separate audio (Fig. 14 element 320), video (Fig. 14 element 322) and data streams (Fig. 14 element 318) forming a multimedia stream transferred between the two end-points (Fig. 13 element "caller phone" and Fig. 14 element "agent phone") each located in network system, the audio, video and data streams each forming a separate media component (Fig. 13 element 320,322,318)(column 15 lines 9-14, 21-30, 41-59)

Hirni also teaches informing by way of routing means, control means about the separate media components (column 17 lines 1-5, lines 16-21, lines 31-45)

Hirni also teaches recognizing in the routing means the separate media components associated with the call between the two-end points (column 16 lines 67-67)(column 17 lines 1-21)(column 18 lines 1-22); and

Hirni teaches permitting signaling messages (setup messages) related to the separate media components to be respectively modified and permits the signaling messages to be separately relayed to each of the separate media components (directing the message to Q.931 component) related to each of the respective signaling messages (related to the setup message and responding w/ proceeding message) (column 16 lines 17-32, lines 57-67)(column 17 lines 1-15) (column 18 lines 1-47).

NOTE: The reference teaches the caller system sends an H.225 setup message (signaling messages) related to Q.931 components to the H.323 switch, and when the H.323 switch receives the messages, it directs to the Q.931 component to respond with proceeding message.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention was made to implement Hirni's teaching in Shaffer's teaching to come up permitting signaling messages to be relayed to media components for which components can receive messages to set up an incoming call which is awaiting for acceptance or rejection. The motivation for doing so would to control the subsequent transmission of packets corresponding to the multimedia call (column 17 lines 13-15).

As per claim 2, Shaffer and Hirni teaches the method of claim 1, but Shaffer further teaches wherein in the monitoring step call control means control means receive a media component control-signaling message (column 6 lines 1-15).

NOTE: The reference teaches in-band monitor monitoring the signals and then sending the control signal for the media stream to the gateway controller (control means).

As per claim 3, Shaffer and Hirni teaches the method of claim 1, but Shaffer further teaches wherein the informing comprises:

- sending a message to the control means (column 5 lines 60-65); and

NOTE: The reference teaches sending a message to the gateway, which comprises the control means (Fig. 4 element 850) of the gateway.

- waiting for a response from the control means (Column 5 lines 60-67).

NOTE: The reference teaches receiving the message at the control means of the gateway and then sending a response to in-band signal monitor.

As per claim 4, Shaffer and Hirni teaches the method of claim 1, but Shaffer further teaches wherein the informing comprises:

- sending a message to the control means (column 5 lines 60-65); and

NOTE: The reference teaches sending a message to the gateway, which comprises the control means (Fig. 4 element 850) of the gateway.

- waiting for a response from the control means (Column 5 lines 60-67)

NOTE: The reference teaches receiving the message at the control means of the gateway and then waiting and then sending a response to in-band signal monitor.

- receiving the message from the control means (Column 5 lines 60-67)

NOTE: The reference teaches receiving the message at the control means of the gateway and then sending a response to in-band signal monitor, and

- sending a modified component control signaling message for call control means (column 6 lines 36-46)(column 7 lines 6-10).

NOTE: The reference teaches sending a control signal message to the H.323 terminal advising the client of the busy signal or recognizing the signal and then client sends a disconnect signal message to the gateway to disconnect the call (call control means) because gateway is the one who is in control of call control means because it connects and disconnects the call.

As per claim 7, Shaffer and Hirni teaches the method of claim 1, but Shaffer further teaches wherein the informing comprises:

- sending a message from call control means to the control means (column 5 lines 60-65); and

- waiting for a response from the control means to the call control means (Column 5 lines 60-67)

As per claim 8, Shaffer teaches the method of according to claim 2, wherein the media component control signaling message describes opening, closing or modifying a media component (column 5 lines 4-6).

NOTE: The reference teaches control signaling is recognized and the terminal starts playing (opening) the audio file (media component).

As per claim 9, Shaffer teaches the method according to claim 2, wherein the media component control signaling message is in association with a call signaling message (column 5 lines 2-6).

NOTE: The reference teaches the when the component control signaling message is recognized the terminal starts playing the audio file corresponding to the call progress signal (call signal message).

As per claims 13-16,19-21 teaches same limitations as claims 1-4,7-9 respectively, therefore rejected under same basis.

As per claim 25, Shaffer teaches an apparatus for providing a connection control signal between two end-points, the control signal being specifically for separate audio, video and data streams forming a multimedia stream transferred between the two end-points (Fig. 1 element 102A,B)(column 3 lines 59-67) each located in a network system, the separate audio, video and data streams each forming a separate media component, the apparatus configured to monitor media component control signaling between the two end-points (column 4 lines 57-67)(column 5 lines 1-23)(column 3 lines 5-67)(column 4 lines 1-3);

The reference teaches the gateway include an in-band signal monitoring to monitor the signals which are also routed by the gateway (routing means) between two or more H.323 terminals (transferred between two end points) and also formats the transmitted video, audio data and control streams (forming a multimedia stream) into messages for output to the network interface and each forming separate media component (Fig. 2 elements 12,28,22).

-inform control means (Fig. 4 element 850) about separate media components associated with a call between two endpoints (column 4 lines 44-67)(column 5 lines 1-6);

The reference teaches H.323 terminals informing the gateway (Fig. 4 element 106) which comprises control means (Fig. 4 element 850) of the call signal (separate media components).

-apply a connection control issued by the control means to the separate media components (column 5 lines 1-6, 25-45,55-67)(column 6 lines 1-15).

The reference teaches a connection command (connection control) issued by the gateway, which comprises control (control means) to block the signal (separate media components).

Shaffer fails to teach permitting signaling messages related to the separate media components to be respectively modified and permits the signaling messages to be separately relayed to each of the separate media components related to each of the respective signaling messages.

Hirni also teaches monitoring in a routing means of control signaling between the two end-points (Fig. 2b element 43 and 43'), the control signaling being specifically for separate audio (Fig. 14 element 320), video (Fig. 14 element 322) and data streams (Fig. 14 element 318) forming a multimedia stream transferred between the two end-points (Fig. 13 element "caller phone" and Fig. 14 element "agent phone") each located in network system, the audio, video and data streams each forming a separate media component (Fig. 13 element 320,322,318)(column 15 lines 9-14, 21-30, 41-59)

Hirni also teaches informing by way of routing means, control means about the separate media components (column 17 lines 1-5, lines 16-21, lines 31-45)

Hirni also teaches recognizing in the routing means the separate media components associated with the call between the two-end points (column 16 lines 67-67)(column 17 lines 1-21)(column 18 lines 1-22)

Hirni teaches permitting signaling messages (setup messages) related to the separate media components (Q. 931 component) to be respectively modified and permits the signaling messages to be separately relayed to each of the separate media components (directing the message to Q.931 component) related to each of the respective signaling messages (related to the setup message and responding w/ proceeding message) (column 16 lines 17-32).

The reference teaches the caller system sends an H.225 setup message (signaling messages) related to Q.931 components to the H.323 switch, and when the H.323 switch receives the messages, it directs to the Q.931 component to respond with proceeding message.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention was made to implement Hirni's teaching in Shaffer's teaching to come up permitting signaling messages to be relayed to media components for which components can receive messages to setting up an incoming call which is awaiting for acceptance or rejection. The motivation for doing so would to control the subsequent transmission of packets corresponding to the multimedia call (column 17 lines 13-15).

As per claim 26, Shaffer and Hirni teaches the method of claim 1, but Shaffer further teaches wherein the audio, video and data streams each forming media component are routable via different paths between the end-points (column 4 lines 57-67)(column 5 lines 1-23)(column 3 lines 5-67)(column 4 lines 1-3)

As per claims 27,28,29,30 respectively, they recite similar limitation as claims 2,3,4,7 respectively, therefore rejected under same basis.

Claims 5-6,10-12,17-18,22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shaffer et al. U.S. Patent # 6,801,521 (hereinafter Shaffer) in view of Hirni et al. U.S. Patent # 6,731,609 (hereinafter Hirni) further in view of Salama et al. U.S. Patent # 6,584,093 (hereinafter Salama).

As per claim 5, Shaffer and Hirni teaches the method of claim 1, wherein during the monitoring, but fails to teach if the media component control signaling message are routed via media proxy means, the call control means request report of media component related events from the media proxy means, and the media proxy means inform the call control means of the media component related events. Salama teaches if the media component control signaling message are routed via media proxy means, the call control means request report of media component related events from the media proxy means, and the media proxy means inform the call control means of the media component related events (column 3 lines 1-15, lines 22-44)(column 5 lines 44-67)(column 6 lines 1-6). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention was made to implement Salama's teaching in Shaffer and Hirni's teaching to come up with routing signaling message via proxy, call control means requesting report from the media proxy, and media proxy informing the call control means. The motivation doing so would have been to find out if the signaling message was received when it was routed through the proxy therefore call control means requesting report to find out if the signaling message was received correctly.

As per claim 6, Shaffer and Hirni teaches the method according to claim 1, but fails to teach the multimedia stream is routed via media proxy means communicating

Art Unit: 2451

with call control means. Salama teaches the multimedia stream is routed via media proxy means communicating with call control means (column 3 lines 22-44). Salama teaches that all the RTP stream (multimedia streams) are routed via proxy communicating with the gatekeepers and the terminal (call control). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention was made to implement Salama's teaching in Shaffer and Hirni's teaching to come up with having multimedia stream being route via a media proxy communicating with call control means. The motivation for doing so would have been so that each ISP which has different policies and which are connected to proxies can forces all incoming H.323 calls to go through these proxies in order to enforce its specific policies on the calls (column 3 lines 47-51).

As per claim 10, Shaffer, Hirni and Salama teaches the method according to claim 6, but Salama further teaches wherein the media components associated with a call are recognized in the media proxy (column 5 lines 50-67)(column 6 lines 1-6). Salama teaches media components associated with the call are received by the proxies and creates the corresponding request to pass to redirect server using recognized media stream. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention was made to implement Salama's teaching in Shaffer and Hirni's teaching to come up with recognizing media components in the proxies. The motivation for doing so would have been so that media stream would flow directly between the endpoints and through Internet.

As per claim 11, Shaffer, Hirni and Salama teaches the method of claim 10, but Shaffer further teaches further comprising a connection control including: issuing connection control requests from the control means to the call control means (column 5 lines 24-45). Shaffer fails to teach issuing connection control requests from the call control means to the media proxy means. Salama teaches issuing connection control requests from the call control means to the media proxy means (column 5 lines 50-67)(column 6 lines 1-6) and switching the media components by the media proxy means in accordance with the connection control requests (column 6 lines 6-16). It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention was made to implement Salama's teaching in Shaffer and Hirni's teaching to come up with issuing connection control requests to the media proxy from the call control means. The motivation for doing so would have been so that the media stream would flow directly between the endpoints and through Internet.

As per claim 12, Shaffer, Hirni and Salama teaches the method according to claim 11, but Shaffer further teaches wherein the switching of the media components involves media proxy switching IP packet payloads carrying a media component between an incoming and outgoing packet stream (column 3 lines 38-53).

As per claims 17-18,22-24 teaches same limitations as claims 5-6,10-12 respectively, therefore rejected under same basis.

Remarks

Applicant's arguments filed 2/8/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

As per remarks, Applicant stated the following:

A). Applicant states Shaffer does not teach or suggest “control signaling being separate audio, video and data streams, each of which form a separate media component nor Shaffer recite or contemplate information control means about the separate media components or applying a connection control thereto”. Specifically applicants state that Shaffer does not teach “monitoring control signals” and also Shaffer fails to teach or suggest “handling/recognition of the different media components”.

B). Applicant also states Examiner is contradicting by stating Shaffer teaches “which permits signaling messages related to the separate media components to be respectively modified and permits the signaling messages to be separately relayed to each of the separate media components related to each of the respective signaling messages” in the previous office action on page 4 but then states Shaffer fails to teach the above limitation. Applicant also states Shaffer or Hirni neither states “ability to permit signaling messages related to the separate media components to be respectively modified and relayed to each of the separate media components”. Applicant argue that Hirni no way suggest that the message is modified. .

C). Applicant states Salama does not teach “if media component control signaling messages are routed via media proxy means, the call control means request report of media component related events from the media proxy means, and the media proxy means inform the call control means of the media component related events”

As per remark A, Examiner respectfully disagrees with the applicant because in column 4 lines 1-3, 57-67, column 5 lines 1-23, column 3 lines 59-67, Shaffer teaches the gateway include an in-band signal monitoring to monitor the signals which are also routed by the gateway (routing means) between two or more H.323 terminals (transferred between two end points) and also formats the transmitted video, audio data and control streams (forming a multimedia stream) into messages for output to the network interface and each forming separate media component (Fig. 2 elements 12,28,22). Furthermore, it is known in the art for H.323 protocol interface gateway/terminals to provide separate media components in the multimedia stream/call as applicant as stated in the "background of invention" of the present application (Page 2 lines 7-10). Specifically applicants state that Shaffer does not teach "monitoring control signals". Examiner respectfully disagrees with the applicant because in column 4 lines 29-32, Shaffer specifically states in-band signaling monitor provides control signals to the H.323 terminals. Applicant states that in-band signaling is performed only with respect to call progress audio signals and cites (column3 lines 55-58). Examiner would like to point out that column 3 lines 55-58, states call progress tones not "audio tones". Furthermore, the call progress tones include audio, video and data control streams since it includes video conferencing call as well (column 3 lines 31-34)(column 4 lines 15-25). It is known in the art that in H.323 communication session that when an multimedia signal is sent, it contains separate audio, video, and data/control streams in H.323 communication session or H.225 protocol signals. Examiner would like to point out Fig 2. elements 28,12,22,15,14,19 which provides video, audio, data to be separate

Art Unit: 2451

media components. In column 3 lines 59-67, Shaffer further states that establishing communication between two H.323 terminals by H.225 layer it also formats the transmitted video, audio, data and control stream into messages for the output which proves these are separate components. It is known in the art that when an multimedia signal is sent, it contains separate audio, video, and data/control streams in H.323 communication session or H.225 protocol signals.

Applicant also states that Shaffer fails to teach or suggest "handling/recognition of the different media components".

In column 4 lines 44-67, column 5 lines 1-6, Shaffer teaches the control processor (control means) which extracts audio patterns from an incoming data stream and store them as audio files (media components which includes audio, data stream). In this case the incoming data stream includes audio signals which are stored as audio files. Furthermore, Shaffer teaches gateway receiving the signals and recognizing the patterns of the call signals and the audio files in the data stream (i.e. audio and data stream separate media components) associated with the call between H.323 terminal (two end points). In particular the in-band signaling monitor in the gateway is configured to allow call progress signals to the pass to the H.323 terminal. When the signal is recognized the audio files corresponding to the call signal is played. Examiner would also like to point out that according to the specification of the present invention, for separate media components audio communication has to be supported and video and data are optional (Page 7 lines 11-13), further more that media can be added, dropped or replaced dynamically during a call (Page 7 lines 11-13). In the specification of the

Art Unit: 2451

current application it states that video and data media components are optional therefore, handling/recognition of these components are optional as well. This means audio is needed during the call which is provided by Shaffer. Shaffer teaches using data stream including an audio and extracting them into audio files which is audio communication from the data stream which is data stream communication. Therefore Shaffer teaches informing and recognizing the separate media components.

Examiner would also like to point out that Hirni also teaches monitoring in a routing means of control signaling between the two end-points (Fig. 2b element 43 and 43'), the control signaling being specifically for separate audio (Fig. 14 element 320), video (Fig. 14 element 322) and data streams (Fig. 14 element 318) forming a multimedia stream transferred between the two end-points (Fig. 13 element "caller phone" and Fig. 14 element "agent phone") each located in network system, the audio, video and data streams each forming a separate media component (Fig. 13 element 320,322,318)(column 15 lines 9-14, 21-30, 41-59).

Hirni clearly shows in Fig. 13 and 14, having separate logical channels for audio, video, data i.e. separate components. These media streams are sent using H.245 audio and video open logical channel messages to the switch and then to the other endpoint. Therefore not only Shaffer but Hirni also teaches limitations about "control signaling being separate audio, video and data streams, each of which form a separate media component"

As per remark B, applicant's comment on the Examiner contradicting on the limitation "which permits signaling messages related to the separate media components

Art Unit: 2451

to be respectively modified and permits the signaling messages to be separately relayed to each of the separate media components related to each of the respective signaling messages.”, Examiner would like to apologize for the confusion created, but Examiner never provided citation of the Shaffer reference for that limitation in the previous office action. Examiner made a typographical error by not removing the limitation underneath the Shaffer reference teaching. Further Examiner would like to state that Shaffer does not teach " which permits signaling messages related to the separate media components to be respectively modified and permits the signaling messages to be separately relayed to each of the separate media components related to each of the respective signaling messages”. Hirni teaches that limitations as provided below.

Examiner respectfully disagrees with the applicant because in column 16 lines 17-32, 57-67 and column 17 lines 1-15, Hirni teaches permitting signaling messages (setup messages) related to the separate media components (Q. 931 component) to be respectively modified and permits the signaling messages to be separately relayed to each of the separate media components (directing the message to Q.931 component) related to each of the respective signaling messages (related to the setup message and responding w/ proceeding message) (column 16 lines 17-32, lines 57-67)(column 17 lines 1-15). Hirni further teaches the caller system sends an H.225 setup message (signaling messages) related to Q.931 components to the H.323 switch, and when the H.323 switch receives the messages, it directs to the Q.931 component to respond with proceeding message. In column 16 lines 65-67, column 17 lines 1-5, Hirni teaches

Art Unit: 2451

sending H.245 messages for each of the audio, video and data components (media components) to the agent system which acknowledges them back to the switch. The switch sends a T.120 conference invite message. The switch also sends H.245 protocol messages for controlling transmission of packets corresponding to the call (column 18 lines 1-47) Examiner would like to state that H.245 and H.225 setup message are signaling messages which are related to the media components since, the H.245 is used to for connection purposes for sending streams of audio, video data between endpoints. In column 17 lines 1-5, Hirni teaches that H.245 audio and video open logical channel messages are sent to caller system and which are then routed to the switch which stores the OLC messages and stored OLC information (i.e. routed to media components) since open logical channel messages are permit messages and they are audio and video OLC which are then sent to the caller system. In column 17 lines 8-21, Hirni teaches that switch receives and confirms a data OLC from the caller system and switch sends T.120 invite message to the caller system. The switch receives H.245 protocol messages (signal messages) to control the subsequent transmission (separately relayed) of the packets corresponding to multimedia call (media components).

Applicant argue that Hirni no way suggest that the message is modified. Examiner would like to specification of the current application, where it states that messages are not modified, rather "media component control signaling message may describe modifying a media components" (Page 6 lines 33-34). It seems to examiner that applicant has interpreted the wording incorrectly and therefore, the claim language

states “permits signaling messages are ***related*** to the separate media components to be respectively modified”. This means that permit signaling messages are not modified but they are related to the modified media components. Therefore applicant’s argument of “modification of the signaling messages” is deemed moot.

Therefore Hirni teaches the claimed limitations.

As per remark C, Examiner respectfully disagrees with the applicant because in column 3 lines 1-15, lines 22-44, column 5 lines 44-67, column 6 lines 1-6, Salama teaches H.323 recommended signaling model for gatekeeper routed calls (i.e. signaling messages routed via proxy). The Q.931 and H.45 signaling flow through gatekeeper while the RTP media still flow directly between terminals. This means that media control signaling messages are routed via media proxy. Now in column 5 lines 44-67, column 6 lines 1-6, Salama teaches having SIP call is routed through the proxy server (media proxy), the proxy server forwards the request to the called terminal (call control means) and SIP response from the terminal goes through proxy server. In this case the media component related events are the SIP call. In column 5 lines 59-62, it states the redirect server receives SIP request from a client and responds with addressing information about where the call should be forwarded (inform the call control) about the SIP call i.e. the addressing information and where it should be forwarded. The claim language does not define as to “what media component related events are”. Therefore Examiner has taken the broadest interpretation as the media component related events as being SIP call. Therefore Salama teaches the claimed limitations.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

A). "Method and Apparatus for automatic inter-domain routing of calls" by Salama et al. U.S. Patent # 6,584,093.

B). "System and method for distributed call signaling in telephony-over-LAN networks" by Shaffer et al. U.S. Patent # 6,801,521.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dhairya A. Patel whose telephone number is 571-272-5809. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00AM-5:30PM, first Fridays OFF.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on 571-272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DAP
/John Follansbee/ SPE 2451